

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
AND RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
U.S. APPLN. NO. 10/540,021

REMARKS

Review and reconsideration of the merits are requested.

The claims have been amended.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15 and 16 have been amended. The following amended claims still cover the corresponding species and subspecies, even if they do not explicitly recite them:

Claims 1, 4, 10, 12: Species 1-5;

Claims 4 and 12: Subspecies A and B;

Claims 6 and 15: Subspecies a and b;

Claims 7 and 16: Subspecies a1 and b1; and

Claim 8: Subspecies a2 and b2.

Previous claim 13 did not recite, as alleged in the latest Official Action, subspecies a1 and b1. Previous claim 13 referred to “a single or a plurality of annular detector(s)”, not “a single or a plurality of annular alpha detector(s)”, as in claims 7 and 16. The annular detector(s) are not necessarily the same detector(s) of claims 7 and 16, nor are they necessarily alpha detector(s). In any case, claim 13 has now been amended to recite “at least one annular detector”.

In case the generic claims were not found to be allowable, Applicants elect as follows:

Claims 1, 4, 10, 12: Species 3 (a plurality of NaI detectors);

Claims 4 and 12: Subspecies A (²⁵²Cf thermalized neutron source);

Claims 6 and 15: Subspecies a) (²⁴¹Am);

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Claims 7 and 16: Subspecies a1 (a single annular alpha detector); and
Claim 8: Subspecies a2 (electro-optical reading).

Respectfully submitted,



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